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(74) Agents: **GEARY, Stuart Lloyd et al.**; Venner, Shipley LLP, 20 Little Britain, London Greater London EC1A 7DH (GB).

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(71) Applicants (*for all designated States except US*): LIP-MAN ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING LIMITED [IL/IL]; 11 Haamal Street, Park Afek, Rosh Haayin 48092 (IL). GARRIDO-GADEA, Enrique [GB/GB]; 213 Amersham Road, Hazlemere Buckinghamshire HP15 7QX (GB). GRAHAM HODGES, Andrew [GB/GB]; 19 Warren Close Stone, Aylesbury Buckinghamshire HP17 8YL (GB). ANDREW HODSON, Richard [GB/GB]; 7 Burninston Close Lower Earley, Reading Berkshire RG6 3XE (GB).

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(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): WARD, Richard [GB/GB]; 10 Saunders Close, Oxford, Watlington Oxfordshire OX49 5QY (GB). RICHARDS, Gareth Alexander [GB/GB]; 17 The Custom House Redcliffe Backs, Bristol Avon BS1 6NE (GB).

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(54) Title: SECURE CARD READER

(57) Abstract: A secure card reader (1) includes several security measures. Access to the reader's main circuitry is prevented by an enclosure (9) whose walls contain embedded i conductive paths (18a, 18b, 18c). Breaking or grounding of one of these paths can be detected electronically. A similar arrangement of conductive paths prevent enlarging of a card receiving slot (9c) If tampering is detected using the embedded conductive paths (18a, 18b, 18c), the reader's memory (69) is wiped. The enclosure (9) has apertures (20) in its walls and is held in place by a potting material that extends into the apertures. Means (31, 35) is also provided to detect attempts to probe behind a keypad membrane (7). The contacts (42) for the chip of a chip card are arranged so that their leads all extend away from the card insertion slot.

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